

July 5th City/Port Liaison Committee

On July 5, the City/Port Liaison Committee met in the Exhibit Room to discuss state and federal funding opportunities for port and city priorities and projects, including opportunities from the recently-passed state infrastructure bonds.

The committee learned of current port projects and priorities from Director of Public Affairs Libby Schaaf, and also how the port is pursuing an aggressive state and federal appropriations strategy to ensure that the Port of Oakland gets its fair share of state and federal funding. The committee also heard from the City of Oakland's state lobbyist, Isaac Kos-Read of Townsend Public Affairs, who gave an overview of the state infrastructure bond package and how the City of Oakland could be competitive in securing funds from the entire range of bond offerings.

Due to the light agenda, the committee tried out a slightly new format this month, with all of the meeting attendees seated around one table. Co-chair Nancy Nadel and I moderated the discussion that followed the reports from city and port staff. Meeting attendees remarked that this seemed like a successful approach, and it's one that I hope to be able to continue in future meetings of City/Port Liaison Committee.